State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd.
Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 229-0762
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To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Multi TD Watterson Trough Grid Reliability and Maintenance Pole Replacement Project (Notification of Streambed Alteration, No., EPIMS-MOO-43156-R6)

Project Location (Mono County): Multi TD Watterson Trough Grid Reliability and Maintenance Pole Replacement Project (Project) is located along an unnamed tributary to Spring Canyon Creek on United States Forest Service lands in the Inyo National Forest approximately one mile northeast of the Benton Crossing Road and Deer Spring Road intersection, and is approximately eight miles northeast of the census-designated place of Toms Place, Mono County, State of California; Latitude 37.667197, Longitude -118.613829.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No., EPIMS-MOO-43156-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Southern California Edison.

The Project is limited to removing and replacing two wood H-frame transmission structures (Structure 2057855E/2057856E and 2057853E/2057854E).

Project activities described above are anticipated to temporarily impact 0.024-acre of resources subject to Fish and Game Code Section 1602.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:
Hazem Gabr
Southern California Edison
Senior Manager
(626) 302-7608
Hazem.Gabr@sce.com
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770

Exempt Status: On October 3, 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15301 Existing Facilities. The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1(a), the Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether the Project is exempt from CEQA and that determination shall be final and conclusive on all persons, including Responsible Agencies. As a result, CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, is bound by the Lead Agency's determination that the Project is exempt from CEQA.

CDFW Contact Person: Kyle Maxwell, Environmental Scientist, (909) 229-0762, Kyle.Maxwell@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature: DocuSigned by: Kim Freeburn 84F92FFEEFD24C8... *Date:* 1/26/2026

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: